quantity diminishes in hot weather. Below is a stratum of brackish water, and if this is tapped the well is spoilt for all practical purposes. This is one of the reasons restricting to a great extent the utility of the tube wells recently introduced. The necessity of supplementing the good work done through tube wells is thus manifest. A sum of Rs. 1,200 has been provided in the Public Works Department budget for experimental boring operations in three or four suitable localities. If subterranean water could be tapped at any place, the necessity would be met, to a large extent of a copious and potable water supply.

PENSION TO VILLAGE OFFICERS

Another item of expenditure for which we have made provision this year is in connection with the grant of pension to the village officers of this State recruited since 1099 M.E. The members of this Honourable House have been advocating the cause of these people for a long time now. The decision of Government to grant pension to all village officers, irrespective of the dates of their entry into service, removes a grievance which was a source of heartburn to newcomers to these services, who had to retire along with the others on superannuation but with no pension. It is hoped that the prospects of pension will attract educated young men to these services in larger numbers, and that the chances of losing the pension in the event of misconduct will conduce in a larger measure towards official rectitude and good behaviour.

AMENITIES TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

The provision of Rs. 5,000 for noonday meals to school-children is another refreshing item, which, it is hoped, would be widely appreciated. It is obvious that Governmental generosity in this respect has to be supplemented largely by private munificence if the object in view has to be achieved in full.

MEASURES AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

The provision of Rs. 4,000 made in the Medical budget for a Tuberculosis Clinic at Trichur is another item designed to meet a long-felt want. The clinic at Trichur was opened on 1st January, 1941. The establishment of the clinic was the result of acceptance by the Government of the suggestions made by Dr. Moller, Medical Commissioner to the Tuberculosis Association of India. "The aim for combating tuberculosis in the State," observed the learned doctor in a communication to Government, "is to work out a scheme for prevention and organised home-treatment in order to reach as many patients as possible both with the object of treatment as well as can be done under the circumstances and of preventing

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the spread of the disease from these sources of infection." "Such a scheme of prevention and organised home-treatment," continued Dr. Moller, "can, however, not be worked at all satisfactorily without the necessary basis for the support of it. The first of all anti-tuberculosis activities in the State should, therefore, be the establishment of the necessary basis by the construction of a few modern tuberculosis clinics and a sanatorium." I might state here that Dr. Moller's suggestion for an up-to-date sanatorium at Trichur has been taken up by Government and a committee is just now engaged in the task of finding out a suitable site for locating it.

WAR EFFORTS

I have not attempted to take you to the leading provisions of the budget relating to the Transferred Departments, as the Honourable Minister for Rural Development would be explaining to you its salient features. All that remains for me to do is to give you a short account of the war efforts made by this State. In his budget speech last year, the Diwan-President pointed out in eloquent terms that we in this State "do not stand as an isolated unit in the world but as a component part of a mighty Commonwealth of Nations," and that we should "give cheerfully and liberally for the cause which is as much ours as that of Great Britain."

It is gratifying to observe that the work of the War Committee of this State has been very successful and that the response from the citizens of the State showed that they have felt it their duty to assist in every way the fight against those who attempt to crush the freedom of humanity. Till the end of May 1941, a sum of Rs. 1,05,951—1—3 was collected, and, out of this, contributions to various War Funds were made to the extent of over Rs. 94,000. In addition to the above contributions, the whole resources of the State have been placed at the disposal of Great Britain and her Allies for the successful conduct of the war. A contribution of Rs. 10,000 is made every month to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, and the sum of Rs. 1,20,000 which finds place in the budget for next year represents the sum total of contributions on this account for next year. Besides, a contribution of Rs. 20,000 has recently been made to the above fund. The amount represents the savings in expenditure effected, at His Highness's command, by reducing the functions connected with His Highness's recent Installation. I have no doubt that the gracious example set by His Highness will inspire all His Highness's loyal subjects to give their unstinted support, service and sacrifice to promote the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly